

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK

NAMIEL NORRIS,

Plaintiffs,

v.

MULBERRY STREET CIGAR CORP., a New  
York corporation, d/b/a MULBERRY STREET  
CIGAR, and SMITH MURDOCK  
COMPANY, LLC, a New York limited  
liability company,

Defendant(s).

24-CV-8858 (JAV)

**NOTICE OF REASSIGNMENT**

JEANNETTE A. VARGAS, United States District Judge:

This case has been reassigned to the undersigned. All counsel must familiarize themselves with the Court's Individual Practices, which are available at <https://nysd.uscourts.gov/hon-jeannette-vargas>. Unless and until the Court orders otherwise, all prior orders, dates, and deadlines shall remain in effect notwithstanding the case's reassignment.

Additionally, **by February 18, 2025**, the parties are hereby ORDERED to file on ECF a joint letter, described below, updating the Court on the status of the case. This joint letter will replace the letter the parties were ordered to file by January 20, 2025. (*See* ECF No. 7.) The joint letter shall provide the following information, to the extent it is relevant, in separate paragraphs:

1. Names of counsel and current contact information, if different from the information currently reflected on the docket;
2. A brief statement of the nature of the case and/or the principal defenses thereto;
3. A brief explanation of why jurisdiction and venue lie in this Court. In any action in which subject matter jurisdiction is founded on diversity of citizenship

pursuant to Title 28, United States Code, Section 1332, the letter must explain the basis for the parties' belief that diversity of citizenship exists. Where any party is a corporation, the letter shall state both the place of incorporation and the principal place of business. In cases where any party is a partnership, limited partnership, limited liability company, or trust, the letter shall state the citizenship of each of the entity's members, shareholders, partners, and/or trustees;


4. A detailed statement of all discovery undertaken to date, including how many depositions each party has taken and what, if any, discovery remains that is essential for the parties to engage in meaningful settlement negotiations;
5. A brief description of the status of prior settlement discussions, without disclosing exact offers and demands;
6. A statement of whether the parties have discussed the use of alternate dispute resolution mechanisms and indicating whether the parties believe that (a) a settlement conference before a Magistrate Judge; (b) participation in the District's Mediation Program; and/or (c) retention of a privately retained mediator would be appropriate at this time;
7. Whether instead of a referral to ADR the parties would instead prefer the scheduling of an initial case management conference;
8. Any other information that the parties believe may assist the Court in advancing the case to settlement or trial, including, but not limited to, a description of any dispositive or novel issue raised by the case.

If this case has been settled or otherwise terminated, counsel are not required to submit such letter or to appear, provided that a stipulation of discontinuance, voluntary dismissal, or

other proof of termination is filed on the docket prior to the joint letter submission deadline, using the appropriate ECF Filing Event. *See* SDNY ECF Rules & Instructions §§ 13.17-13.19, available at [http://nysd.uscourts.gov/ecf\\_filing.php](http://nysd.uscourts.gov/ecf_filing.php). Requests for extensions or adjournment may be made only by letter-motion filed on ECF, and must be received at least two business days before the deadline or scheduled appearance, absent compelling circumstances. The written submission must state (1) the original date(s) set for the appearance or deadline(s) and the new date(s) requested; (2) the reason(s) for the request; (3) the number of previous requests for adjournment or extension; (4) whether these previous requests were granted or denied; and (5) whether opposing counsel consents, and, if not, the reasons given by opposing counsel for refusing to consent.

Counsel who have entered a notice of appearance as of the issuance of this order are directed (1) to notify counsel for all other parties in this action who have not yet appeared by serving upon each of them a copy of this order and the Court's Individual Practices forthwith, and (2) to file proof of such notice with the Court. If unaware of the identity of counsel for any of the parties, counsel receiving this order must forthwith send a copy of this order and the Court's Individual Practices to that party personally.

Dated: February 4, 2025  
New York, New York

  
JEANNETTE A. VARGAS  
United States District Judge